



Douglas M. Duncan
County Executive

CONSTRUCTIVE COMMENTS

MONTGOMERY COUNTY DEPARTMENT OF
PERMITTING SERVICES

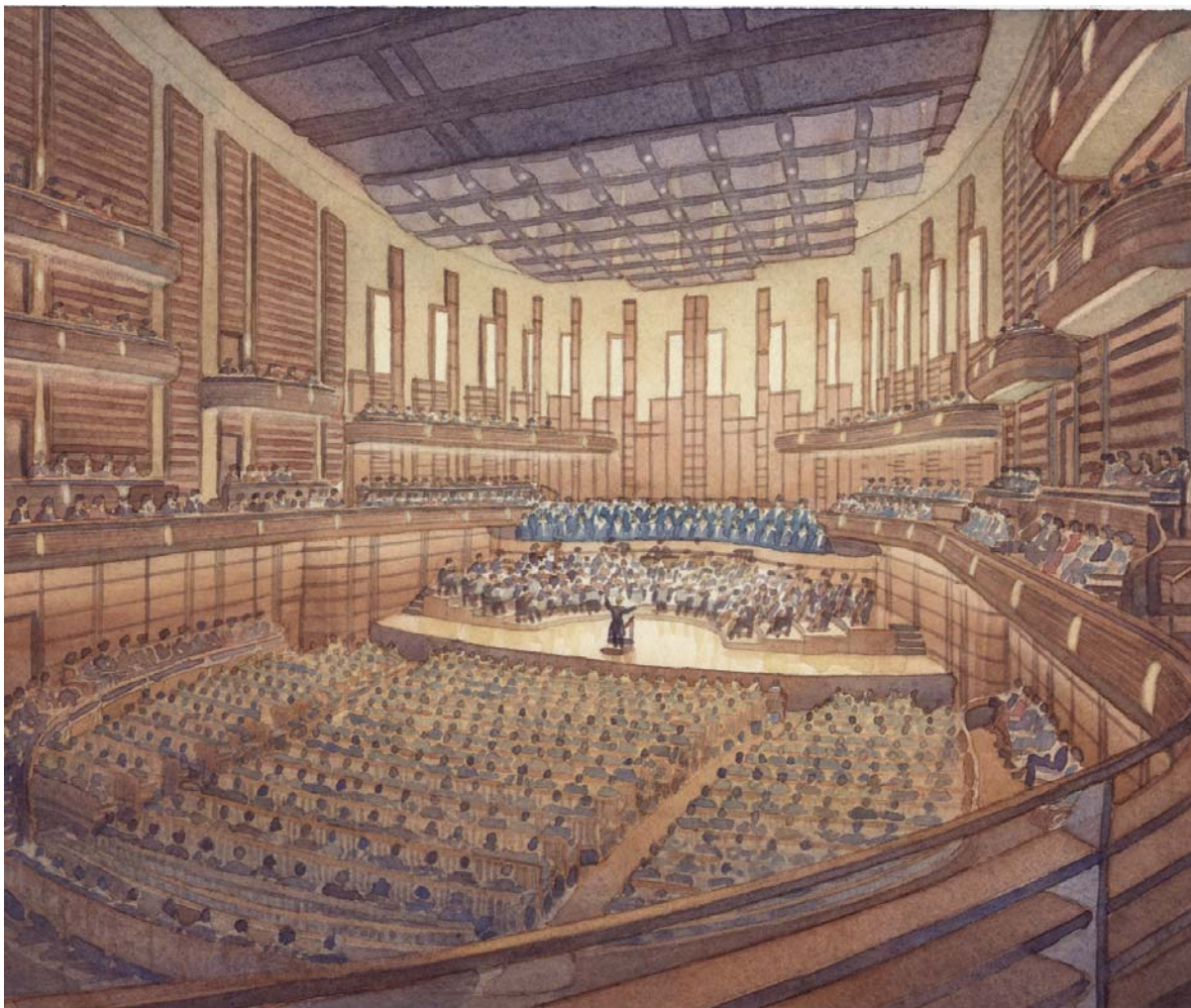
APRIL 2004



Robert C. Hubbard
Director

STRATHMORE HALL: A REVELATION IN BRICK AND STEEL

Illustrator's Rendering of Strathmore Hall Music Center



Architectural Illustrator: F.M. Costantino, Architect: William Rawn Associates Architects, Inc. with Grimm and Parker Architects, Project Client: Montgomery County, Maryland.

Story begins on page 2

By William Boyajy, Senior Editor

Given the inchoate majesty of the new Music Center at Strathmore in North Bethesda, we were undaunted by the blustery weather on our recent visit there. Permitting Services Specialist Mike Hanyok, Executive Administrative Aide and “Constructive Comments” photographic ace Nancy Villani and I wanted to get a look at this massive construction undertaking while its structural elements were still visible.



The north side of the building

“This is the single most significant facility this County will build in our lifetime. Its value will be measured in decades, not years.” The County Executive’s words hardly seemed hyperbolic to us as we toured the Music Center, a 2,000-seat Concert Hall and Music Education Center scheduled to open in 2005. Clark Construction broke ground on April 11, 2001, and has been working on the site ever since. The Center’s soaring architectural design, world-class acoustics, park-like setting and easy access by car, bus, and Metro will distinguish the building and site in the region.

Sound liner in ductwork



Special acoustical insulation



The Grande Promenade will feature a café and gift shop. The Orchestra Lobby boasts a

six-story glass wall overlooking the site, providing a dramatic backdrop for intermissions, banquets and community events. William Rawn Associates of Boston designed the building to complement the historic Strathmore mansion.

The Concert Hall will feature performances by the Baltimore Symphony Orchestra, a Strathmore Founding Partner. The orchestra will be in performance in the hall 40 times a year while maintaining its home base in Baltimore. Also scheduled to appear at the hall are the Washington Performing Arts Society and a vast array of world-class performers for every musical taste, including the National Philharmonic, Maryland Classic Youth Orchestras, City Dance, and The Levine School of Music.



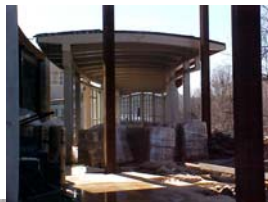
The stage

With its two major rehearsal halls, four classrooms, dance studio and ten practice rooms, the Arts Education Center will play host to a full schedule of classes, rehearsals, one-on-one instruction, recitals, and non-credit educational programs.

One of the most beautiful elements of the new facility will be a sixty-foot, fritted glass curtain wall in the lobby. Fritted glass has been sandblasted, and, during the day, offers a clear view of the pond and green spaces outside the building. At night, passersby see people in the lobby, but patrons inside enjoy an intricate, lace-like pattern across the soaring wall created by the reflection of light off the glass. Noteworthy

interior design features include the adjustable acoustic drapes around the Concert Hall and the bronze grillage that covers them; the lifts that transport pianos, orchestra risers, and choral risers to the stage area; and the elegant white-birch wall finishes.

Another noteworthy architectural element of the facility is the pedestrian bridge directly connecting the Music Center to the future 1500-car Metro garage at the Grosvenor-Strathmore Metro station. While traversing the pedestrian bridge, we had the good fortune to encounter Strathmore Hall President and Chief Executive Officer Eliot Pfanstiehl, who was escorting Paula Moore, a conductor of a special music program called "interPLAY Company," on a tour of the building site. Eliot pointed out that in addition to its arresting enclosed curvilinear design and attractive lighting, the bridge will allow patrons the luxury of entering the garage and accessing the Concert Hall without ever getting their feet wet. Now, that's how I like my culture: warm and dry!



Left to right:
Paula Moore,
Eliot Pfanstiehl,
Mike, and Bill
behind

Mike is the lead County reviewer on this impressive building. He examines third-party inspection reports, conducts his own site reviews, joins the architects and engineers for on-site progress reviews, and meets with various other members of the construction team. He identifies discrepancies in the inspection reports and looks for

field conditions that have not been approved by the designers or the County. His role is to empower the owner's inspectors to ensure compliance with the County-approved documents. He sees himself as a referee who must take action from time to time to keep the project in compliance. Once in awhile, he "throws a flag," that is, issues a "Stop Work Order," when he discovers problems on site or when an inspector's instructions are ignored. He prefers an anticipatory approach based on collaboration among all parties to insure that approved plans are in place by the time construction on a particular phase of the project is set to begin. He is sensitive to the cliché that "time is money" and tries to keep things moving.



Mike at the
entrance to
the parking
garage

Clayton Butler is the lead Permit Technician ("PT") in the Casework Management Division for this important project. Clayton came to DPS from the Capital Projects Management Division of DPWT two years ago and is a natural fit on a project that he supported in his prior job.



Clayton reviews
information for
the concert hall

Clayton had worked with DPWT project manager Mary Kay Donahoe in preparing consultant solicitations and project correspondence for Strathmore Hall while it was in the planning and design stages. Here in

DPS, the PT's role is to be a point-of-contact for all submissions so that internal and external customers are kept informed of the various steps in the permitting process. Clayton has visited the site and is highly impressed with how it is coming together.

Sediment control Permitting Services Inspector Mark Beall routinely visits the site to check for compliance with sediment-control and stormwater-management permit requirements. He has watched the facility emerge from the chaos of excavation and is proud to be associated with such an impressive county facility. Mark believes that the critical location of the site, at the intersection of Tuckerman Lane and Rockville Pike, makes sediment-control compliance particularly important. Mark has worked with the contractor to contain construction run-off and to assure that the new stormwater systems are installed correctly.

While Mike, Clayton, and Mark keep an eye on the structural, water-control, and administrative dimensions of the construction at Strathmore Hall, Building Construction Permitting Services Inspector Mike Raffael handles the electrical dimension. The electrical aspect of the project is challenging because of the large supply requirements and the many unique artistic features designed into the building. The facility receives power from two independent electrical services that provide redundancy in the event of the failure of either one. This configuration is unusual for commercial occupancies. Mike works closely with Truland Electric to insure that all installations comply with the National Electrical Code and county amendments.

Strathmore Hall is certainly a "site" to behold. The next time that you're in North Bethesda, why not visit it while it's under construction? Then, go back after it's com-

pleted and take a look. Hopefully, this article will have amplified your understanding of the symbiotic effort that's required to assure that a project of this scope is both aesthetically pleasing and safe to occupy.



The Concert Hall viewed from the Strathmore Hall deck

NOTES:

With the permission of the Strathmore Hall President and Chief Executive Officer, portions of this article were excerpted from information available on the Strathmore website.

The Montgomery County Building Code permits qualified private inspection companies ("third-party" companies) to do inspections for the County.



Because of budget constraints, stairs replaced an escalator



Plumbing works



Unique ventilation system in seating area



AS I SEE IT ...
by DPS DIRECTOR
ROBERT HUBBARD

I would like to acquaint you with the results of the latest “DPS Customer Satisfaction Survey Report.”

I am extremely pleased by the recognition that you, our customers, have given the Department in the past year. Particularly gratifying is that 90% of the respondents to the survey found their overall experience with DPS to be favorable. The respondents included contractors (64%), homeowner/property owners (21%), design professionals (5%), developers (5%), and others (5%).

To our customers, on behalf of the staff of DPS, I humbly say “Thank you.”

I believe in giving credit where credit is due. In this instance, credit is due to the Permit Technicians, Permitting Services Inspectors, Permitting Services Specialists, and Permitting Services Managers who have embraced the vision of County Executive Doug Duncan and committed themselves to the mission of DPS by providing the best public service without compromising regulatory requirements.

Credit must be given because it would have been easy for employees to have resisted the

change, to have not accepted the additional responsibilities that were placed on them when supervisory layers in the department were compressed, to have not accepted the new automated permitting system, to have shunned customer service and have retreated into their cubicles when our open-office-space design was implemented, to have resisted the certification requirements in their new job classifications, and to have half-heartedly participated in the customer-service and diversity training that they were required to attend.

Now, we see that through their willingness to change, their creativity and their professionalism, DPS employees have turned a once-maligned government function into an example for others to follow. Ninety-one percent (91%) of the survey respondents think that Montgomery County’s permit process is better than that in any other jurisdiction in which they have done business.

Is there room for improvement? You bet there is, and two priorities in this regard are consistency in the application of technical standards and reducing customer waiting times. DPS has already begun to address these issues.

Thanks to our citizens, clients, and employees for contributing so much to making DPS a better place to work and do business.



BUILDING CONSTRUCTION



CODES CORNER



News Bulletins for the
Codes Professional

DID YOU KNOW ?

CODE-MODIFICATION REQUESTS are the means by which our customers propose alternatives to code requirements that may complicate their building projects. We encourage our customers to make such requests if the circumstances are compelling.

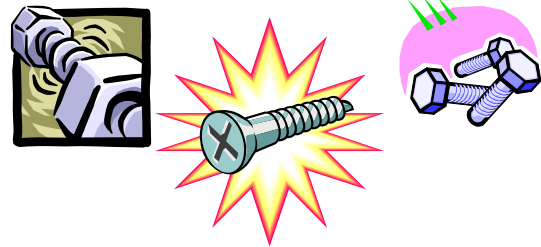
However, **code modifications should be a last rather than a first resort in attempting to deal with code violations.** We would prefer that our customers first exhaust all efforts to devise code-complying solutions to such violations. The code-modification process can be time consuming, and approval of a modification request is not guaranteed.

Modification requests should specify the compensatory protection that will provide an equivalent level of safety and protection to what is provided by the code. The modification application should clearly and completely identify the compensatory protection, as well as the code issue(s), the pertinent code sections/standards, and the reason that code compliance can't be achieved.

Multiple code issues must be submitted under separate modifications. If the same code issue is enforceable under different code standards (such as ceiling heights in IBC & NFPA 101, or grease hoods in IMC & NFPA 96) it may be submitted as one modification, but all applicable code sections and standards must be identified.

For more information about the code-modification process in a down-loadable format under the title "Code Modification Procedure" in the "Bldg. Const." link, visit the DPS website at

<http://www.montgomerycountymd.gov/p/ermittingservices>.



ALERT

FASTENERS and CONNECTORS for PRESSURE- PRESERVATIVE WOOD RESIDENTIAL APPLICATIONS

Following discussions with the Environmental Protection Agency, the building industry agreed in February, 2002, to phase out CCA ("Chromate Copper Arsenate") pressure-treated wood by December, 2003, for most residential applications. CCA-treated wood may be used for permanent wood foundations, industrial applications and specific engineered wood products.

The industry replaced CCA-treated wood with new types of pressure-treated wood such as ACQ- ("Alkaline Copper Quaternary") and Copper-Azole-treated wood. It appears that these and probably other types

of pressure-treated wood are more corrosive than CCA-treated wood. Use of corrosion-resistant fasteners (e.g. nails, screws, and bolts) and connectors (e.g. joist hangers, straps, hinges, post anchors, and truss plates) with any type of pressure-treated wood is extremely important. Metal products in contact with pressure-treated wood may corrode and compromise the structural integrity of a building, thereby exposing its occupants to unacceptable risks.

DPS continues to require that fasteners used for pressure-preservative and fire-retardant-treated wood be of hot-dip galvanized steel, stainless steel, silicon-bronze, or copper and comply with the wood manufacturer's instructions and recommendations. Most manufacturers of the new types of pressure-treated wood require hot-dip galvanized or stainless-steel fasteners and connectors. With the exception of bolts one-half-inch or greater in diameter, which may be of standard carbon steel (section R323.3 of the International Residential Code, 2000), DPS does not allow the use of standard carbon steel, aluminum products, or electroplated metal products in fasteners.

LAND DEVELOPMENT

SEDIMENT-CONTROL PERMIT APPLICANTS TAKE NOTE....

Please be advised that an initiative is underway to verify that the sediment-control-permit number provided when filing for a building permit includes the lot listed on the building permit. Cross-referencing of the lot and block numbers listed on both permits will assure that an

appropriate sediment-control permit is in place before the building permit is released.

Should it be determined that an applicant has provided a sediment-control-permit number that does not include the building lot listed on the building permit, a minor revision fee of \$46, in accordance with Executive Regulation 15-03AM, plus a 10% automation fee will be assessed against the building permit. The building permit will not be issued until the correction is made, and a stop-work order may be placed on the plan-review process if it cannot be verified that an appropriate sediment-control permit application is in place.

The cross-referencing initiative will assist us in determining whether or not lot information has changed on a sediment-control permit. In the event of such a change, no fee would be charged against the building permit; however, changes to the sediment-control permit would be required.

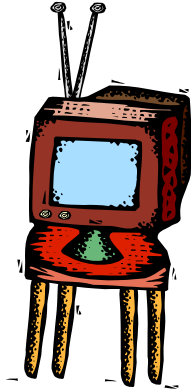
Should it be determined that an issued sediment-control permit did not include the correct lot information, a permit revision would be required. Since a sediment-control permit does not require an approved record plat in order to be issued, it is up to the applicant to advise DPS, via permit revision, if changes occurred during the plat review and approval process.

Applicants will continue to receive the benefit of processing sediment-control permits prior to having an approved plat, which helps expedite the development process.



SPA's ON THE AIR

Starting Sunday March 14th on "The GreenMan Show" on County Cable Channel 6, you can tune in to an entertaining and informative feature on "SPA's." The GreenMan Show is a production of the Montgomery County Department of Environmental Protection ("DEP").



SPA is an acronym for "Special Protection Area." An SPA is an environmentally-sensitive region with high-quality natural resources that are facing pressure from planned development.

The GreenMan Show will educate you about efforts to protect streams and habitats in Special Protection Areas through expanded sediment-control, stormwater-management, and land-use designs. You'll learn about how monitoring both the streams and the sediment and stormwater BMP's (another acronym, this time for "Best Management Practices") helps to document how well the SPA program is doing.

The program's guests include Mary Dolan, Master Plan Supervisor with the M-NCPPC; Leo Galanko, SPA Coordinator with DPS; and Cameron Wiegand, Chief of DEP's Division of Watershed Management. For the field segment of the program in the Clarksburg SPA, they are joined by Derek Isensee, DPS Sediment Control Inspector; Keith Van Ness, Senior Aquatic Ecologist; and DEP Aquatic Biologists Mark Sommerfield and Doug Marshall.

Learn more about SPA's by visiting the DEP Internet site: greenmanshow.com. The GreenMan Show airs daily and is also available online via streaming video and video on demand. For more information about The GreenMan Show/DEP, contact:

Joseph M. Keyser
Environmental Education Coordinator
Department of Environmental Protection
Montgomery County, Maryland
255 Rockville Pike, Ste. 120
Rockville, MD 20850
Tel: 240.777.7720
Fax: 240.777.7773

WELL-AND-SEPTIC JOINS SEDIMENT-CONTROL & RIGHT-OF-WAY IN GEOGRAPHIC INSPECTION SCHEDULING

Historically, the Division of Land Development has favored geographic assignment of inspection workloads. Geographic assignment promotes travel efficiency, employee "ownership" of projects, and employee knowledge of the scientific and business characteristics of the assigned area.

Recently the Right-of-Way and Sediment-Control/Stormwater-Management Inspection Sections revised their geographic assignments. The Well & Septic Section began geographic assignment on March 1, 2004. The areas are defined by zip-code boundaries. Maps delineating the areas are available in our offices or on our website at the following link:

<http://permittingservices.montgomerycountymd.gov/permitting/wr/InspectionAreas>

Well-and-septic customers should schedule their inspections with the appropriate inspector by 2:00 p.m. the day before the inspection is needed. The inspectors' phone numbers are on the map. We will continue to accept faxed (240-777-6314) and phone (240-777-6306) requests. However, we strongly recommend that you schedule directly with the inspector. When providing the inspection address, please **include the zip code**.

The Well and Septic Section thanks you in advance for your cooperation.

CASEWORK MANAGEMENT

CASEWORK MANAGER ACHIEVES LEED ACCREDITED PROFESSIONAL™ CERTIFICATION

Casework Permitting Services Manager Sandra Batterden has achieved certification as a "LEED ('Leadership in Energy and Environmental Design') Accredited Professional™." She joins Permitting Services Specialist Ye Jiang of the Building Construction Division among the ranks of the certified. Ye brought her LEED credentials with her to DPS in July of 2003.

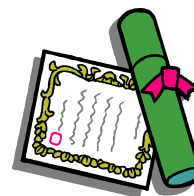
Sandra became certified after completing LEED training sponsored by the City of Gaithersburg. Her fellow trainees included Permitting Services Managers Rick Brush (Land Development) and Hemal Mustafa (Building Construction).

LEED Accredited Professionals™ are experienced building-industry practitioners who have demonstrated their knowledge of

integrated design and their capacity to facilitate the LEED certification process on the LEED Professional Accreditation exam. The United States Green Building Council sponsors the Leadership in Energy and Environmental Design certification process for professionals and building projects and describes itself as "the nation's foremost coalition of leaders from across the building industry working to promote buildings that are environmentally responsible, profitable and healthy places to live and work."

Sandra drew on her experience in DPS and the Department of Public Works and Transportation when taking the certification exam. "The exam focuses on all areas of project development, from site selection through systems commissioning which are day to day items for a project manager" Sandra stated. "There are many new and exciting aspects of the new green building movement focus, including recycling on the construction site, use of recycled materials in the building components, redevelopment of existing sites, and compliance with stringent indoor air quality requirements," she added.

Sandra plans to work with others in DPS to see how the green-building movement can be incorporated in the permit process and hopes to be a valuable resource to department customers who are looking for information on green-building practices. For additional information about the LEED program please contact Sandra at 240-777-6248, or go to the United States Green Building Council web site, www.usgbc.org.





Department of Permitting Services

Division of Casework Management
255 Rockville Pike, 2nd Floor, Rockville, Maryland 20850

DEVELOPMENT IMPACT TAX CHANGES MARCH 1, 2004

WHAT IS A DEVELOPMENT IMPACT TAX?

It is the tax, set by the Montgomery County Council, assessed on new buildings and additions to commercial buildings in the county to fund, in part, the improvements necessary to increase the transportation or public school systems capacity, thereby allowing development to proceed.

WHAT CHANGES HAVE BEEN MADE TO THE DEVELOPMENT IMPACT TAX LAW?

Major changes have been made in the Impact Tax Law. These changes go into effect for building permits applied for on or after MARCH 1, 2004. There is now a TRANSPORTATION Impact Tax and a SCHOOL Impact Tax.

HOW DO THESE CHANGES APPLY TO MY RESIDENTIAL PROJECT?

If you submit an application for a building permit for residential development (single – family detached, single-family attached, multifamily, high-rise, multifamily senior) on or after March 1, 2004 you will be assessed BOTH the Transportation and the School Impact taxes.

WHAT IS A HIGH-RISE?

A high-rise unit includes any dwelling unit located in a multifamily residential or mixed-use building that is taller than 4 stories, and any one-bedroom garden apartment.

IF I FILE AN APPLICATION FOR A BUILDING PERMIT FOR A SINGLE FAMILY DWELLING PRIOR TO MARCH 1, 2004 AND DECIDE TO CHANGE THE HOUSE TYPE ON OR AFTER MARCH 1, 2004, WHAT IMPACT TAXES WILL BE ASSESSED?

In this case, you will be required to file a new application for a building permit and you will be assessed the impact tax fees (both Transportation Impact Fees and School Impact Fees) that are in effect on the date that you file the new application.

WHERE CAN I FIND OUT MORE ABOUT THESE CHANGES?

Both bills mentioned in this article can be found at the following web site:

<http://www.montgomerycountymd.gov/cs/ltmpl.asp?url=/content/council/bills.asp>

Questions concerning impact-tax collections may be directed to DPS at 240 777-6370.

NEW AND REVISED IMPACT TAXES EFFECTIVE MARCH 1, 2004

Both bills mentioned in this article can be found at the following web site:

<http://www.montgomerycountymd.gov/csltmpl.asp?url=/content/council/bills.asp>

Questions concerning impact-tax collections may be directed to DPS at 240 777-6370.

As a result of Bill # 9-03, "Development Impact - Tax School Facilities," applicants for building permits for residential developments filed on or after March 1, 2004, will be assessed a development impact tax for public-school improvements. The tax rates are below:

Dwelling Type	Tax Per Dwelling Unit
Single-family detached	\$8000 (increased by \$1 for each square foot of gross floor area that exceeds 4,500 square feet, to a maximum of 8,500 square feet)
Single-family attached	\$6000 (increased by \$1 for each square foot of gross floor area that exceeds 4,500 square feet, to a maximum of 8,500 square feet)
Multifamily (except high-rise)	\$4000
High-rise	\$1600
Multifamily senior	\$0

In addition to the School Facilities Impact Tax, applicants for building permits in a residential development must also pay the Transportation Impact Tax.

As a result of Bill #31-03, "Transportation Impact Tax – Amendments," applicants for building permits filed on and after March 1, 2004, must pay the revised Transportation Impact Tax. The impact-tax districts have changed from Germantown, Eastern Montgomery County, Clarksburg and County District to Metro Station, Clarksburg and General.

Building Type	Metro Station	Clarksburg	General
Single-Family detached residential (per dwelling unit)	\$2750	\$8250	\$5500
Single-Family attached residential (per dwelling unit)	\$2250	\$6750	\$4500
Multifamily residential (except high-rise) (per dwelling unit)	\$1750	\$5250	\$3500
High-rise residential (per dwelling unit)	\$1250	\$3750	\$2500
Multifamily-senior residential (per dwelling unit)	\$500	\$1500	\$1000
Office (per sq. ft. GFA)	\$2.50	\$6	\$5
Industrial (per sq. ft. GFA)	\$1.25	\$3	\$2.50
Bioscience facility (per sq. ft. GFA)	\$0	\$0	\$0
Retail (per sq. ft. GFA)	\$2.25	\$5.40	\$4.50
Place of worship (per sq. ft. GFA)	\$0.15	\$0.35	\$0.30
Private elementary and secondary school (per sq. ft. GFA)	\$0.20	\$0.50	\$0.40
Hospital (per sq. ft. GFA)	\$0	\$0	\$0
Other nonresidential (per sq. ft. GFA)	\$1.25	\$3	\$2.50

DPS EMPLOYEES RECEIVE ANNUAL LEAVE AWARDS

The following employees received awards of annual leave for their excellent performance:



(Pictured left to right: Mark Beall, Mark Etheridge, Kevin Summers, James Maxwell, and Ron Milberg)

Division of Building Construction

Permitting Services Inspector **Kevin Summers** was recognized for his team spirit and dedication. Over the past year, due to retirements, leave, and family emergencies among commercial-inspection staff, Kevin was often the only electrical inspector available. With almost no help, he was able to complete all scheduled inspections. More important, Kevin maintained his positive attitude and professional approach to his job and continues to do so.

Division of Casework Management

On his own initiative, Permit Technician **James Maxwell** implemented an electronic mail-tracking log for electrical and mechanical permits. The log has become an invaluable tool for staff attempting to account for and respond to the large volume of mail that DPS receives for these permits. James has made a significant contribution to quality customer service in his work unit and the department.

Division of Land Development

Permitting Services Inspector **Ron Milberg** recently prepared and presented a training course to his sediment-control co-workers. The course was the result of Ron's inde-

pendent experimentation with departmental permitting and inspection software ("Hansen"). Sediment-control staff can now more efficiently schedule inspections in Hansen, organize their work, and track inspection frequency on construction sites. Both employees and customers have benefited greatly from Ron's initiative and dedication.

Permitting Services Inspector **Mark Beall** prepared a very detailed summary of issues associated with the performance of the laptops being used by sediment-control inspectors. The summary was instrumental in improving the automated system for documenting field observations and tracking inspections. Previous to his leave award, Mark received a cash award for the numerous letters of commendations submitted on his behalf by DPS clients.

Permitting Services Specialist **Mark Etheridge** was recognized for his sustained high level of performance in reviewing sediment-control and stormwater-management plans. His production was double the average for his work unit in 2003. He makes incisive recommendations to his supervisor on program improvements. He chairs an internal committee on technical standards. His solid work habits, decisiveness, and professionalism continue to be exemplary.

PROFICIENCY ADVANCEMENTS



(Pictured left to right 1st row: Robin Ferro and Terri Grant, 2nd row, William Campbell, Doug Dye, Mark Beall, and Tom Weadon.)

Proficiency advancements are non-competitive promotions that recognize an employee's readiness to assume the duties of the mid-level or the highest classification at which his or her position has been budgeted. Most proficiency advancements in DPS require completion of occupationally-specific certification requirements for promotion to the highest classification level.

We are pleased to announce that the following employees have been proficiency advanced within their respective positions:

Mark Beall - Permitting Services Inspector III - Division of Land Development (Sediment Control/Stormwater Management) **Certified**

Bobby Bell - Permitting Services Specialist II - Division of Casework Management (Zoning)

Bill Campbell - Senior Permitting Services Specialist - Division of Land Development (Sediment Control/Stormwater Management) **Certified**

Doug Dye - Permitting Services Inspector III - Division of Building Construction (Commercial Building) **Certified**

Robin Ferro – Senior Permitting Services Specialist - Division of Casework Management (Zoning) **Certified**

Terri Grant - Permit Tech III - Division of Casework Management (ICC Permit Technician) **Certified**

Mark Nauman - Permitting Services Inspector III - Division of Building Construction (Residential Building) **Certified (absent from picture)**

Ellen Rader – Senior Permitting Services Specialist - Division of Land Development (Sediment Control/Stormwater Management) **Certified**



Tom Weadon - Permitting Services Specialist II - Division of Land Development (Sediment Control/Stormwater Management)

Congratulations Mark, Bobby, Bill, Doug, Robin, Terri, Mark, Ellen, and Tom!

INSPECTORS WIN \$250 CASH AWARDS



(Pictured: left to right; Alan Jenkins and Mike Crim)

Residential Permitting Services Inspectors Mike Crim and Alan Jenkins have been presented with cash awards of \$250 each for their excellent performance. Both employees inspect buildings for compliance with building, electrical, and mechanical codes and standards.

Mike and Alan were cited by their supervisor for their effectiveness in helping customers with diverse backgrounds, their code knowledge, and their furtherance of the departmental commitment to fast and friendly service. Alan was especially helpful to a new colleague who was learning the department's procedures and policies.

Congratulations Mike and Alan!



Proclamation

Montgomery County Maryland

WHEREAS, building safety affects many aspects of our lives, and through building-code enforcement, we live and work in safe, comfortable and healthy structures; and

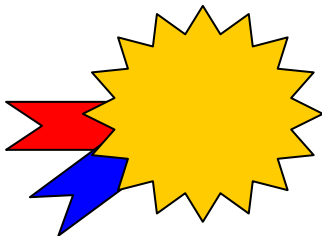
WHEREAS, building codes require adherence to construction practices that safeguard the public from the adverse consequences of natural disasters such as snowstorms, hurricanes, tornadoes, wildfires and earthquakes; and

WHEREAS, countless lives have been saved because of the building-safety codes adopted and enforced by local and state agencies; and

WHEREAS, Building Safety Week is an opportunity to increase public awareness of the role that local, state, and federal building-safety officials play in protecting the public; and

WHEREAS, this year's Building Safety Week theme, "You Can Be A Part of Building Safety Week," encourages all Americans to raise their awareness of building safety and to take appropriate steps to ensure that the places where they live, work, play and learn are safe;

NOW, THEREFORE, DO I, Douglas M. Duncan as County Executive, hereby proclaim the week of April 4 through April 10, 2004, as



BUILDING SAFETY WEEK

in Montgomery County. I encourage our residents to join me in recognizing local building-code officials and the important role that they play in public safety.

Signed this 4th day of April in the year 2004 by County Executive Douglas M. Duncan.

DPS GETS “A CLOSER LOOK”

This spring, County Cable Montgomery, Channel 6, is featuring DPS on its “A Closer Look” program. The program follows a deck-construction project from initial permitting through plan review and construction as a means of illustrating the process and importance of obtaining building permits.

The program showcases a number of “DPS Video Stars,” including Permit Technicians Yvette Cooper, Tommy Carlin, and Cindy Carrington; residential Permitting Services Inspector Brian Hildebrand; and Permitting Services Specialists Gregory McClain (zoning) and Steve Thomas (residential).



DPS QUICK PICS



Mike Raffael drives the department's first “hybrid” car.



Shahriar Amiri and Hadi Mansouri discuss a commercial building concern

Department of Permitting Services
255 Rockville Pike, Second Floor
Rockville, Maryland 20850-4166

PRSRT STD
U.S. Postage
PAID PAID
Rockville MD
Permit No. 138

DPS MAIN TELEPHONE NUMBER
(240) 777-6300

(240) 777-6210	To: Schedule an Inspection	Cancel an Inspection	Find the status of a permit	Receive documents via fax
(240) 777-6259	Complaints			
(240) 777-6370	Questions related to residential building permits (new construction, additions, alterations, sheds, decks, fences, swimming pools), commercial building permits, demolition permits, fire-alarm permits, fire-sprinkler permits, Use-and-Occupancy Certificates, and Historic Area Work Permits			
(240) 777-6320	Questions related to subdivision development, permits to work in the right-of-way, stormwater-management concepts, sediment-control permits, and well-and-septic permits			
(240) 777-6240	Questions related to zoning, setbacks, information, building-height restrictions, special exceptions, electrical permits and licenses, mechanical permits, vendor licenses, sign permits, and Permitting Services records			
(240) 777-6260	Division of Casework Management			
(240) 777-6350	Division of Land Development			
(240) 777-6200	Division of Building Construction			
(240) 777-6360	Office of the Director			
(240) 777-6256	TTY			

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